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INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

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FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

MA Tries

Argentina

Exec. AD-100
Exec. AD-Adm.
Exec. AD-LES
Asst. Dir.:
Adm. Secy.
Crim. Inv.
Ident.
Intell.
Laboratory
Legal Coun.
Plan & Insp.
Rec. Mgmt.
Tech. Servs.
Training
Public Affs. Off.
Telephone Rm.
Director's Sec'y

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FOIA(b)(3) - 50 USC 3024(i)(1) -
Intelligence Sources and Methods

DE-82

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109-12-201-3499

SECRET

WNINTEL

17 1980

DIST: 15 APR 80

DE-82

59 MAY 13 1980

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.

REPORT CLASS- S E C R E T W H I N T E L -

COUNTRY: ARGENTINA.

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE PLANS OF THE MONTONERO TERRORIST

ORGANIZATION TO ATTEMPT THE ASSASSINATION OF A
GOVERNMENT OR BUSINESS OFFICIAL

EO25x1

THE MONTONEROS MAY HAVE PREPARED A LIST OF TARGETS FOR
ASSASSINATION DURING THE LAST DAYS OF MARCH 1980.

2

PAGE 3

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WNINTEL

[REDACTED] POSSIBLE TARGETS AS THE FOLLOWING:

- A. ~~JUAN ANTONIO VINTCHOLSON~~, SUB-SECRETARY OF ECONOMIC COORDINATION IN THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMY.
- B. ~~LUIS ALBERTO ARAGON~~, AN ASSISTANT TO JOSE MARTINEZ DE HOZ, MINISTER OF ECONOMY.
- C. ~~MARCOS RAUL F. IRPINO~~, MEMBER OF THE ARGENTINE RURAL SOCIETY.
- D. ~~FERNANDO CAMPOS MENENDEZ~~, MEMBER OF THE ARGENTINE RURAL SOCIETY.
- E. ~~RICARDO GRUNEISSEN~~, A MEMBER OF THE ASTRA BUSINESS GROUP.
- F. ~~ARTURO F. ACEVEDO~~, A MEMBER OF THE ACINIAR BUSINESS GROUP.
- G. ~~EDUARDO B. R. A. U. CANTILLO~~, A BUSINESSMAN.

EO25x1

ARGENTINA

2. [REDACTED] COMMENT: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
IN THE SECOND HALF OF MARCH, ARGENTINE SECURITY FORCES CAPTURED 12 MONTONEROS; EACH HAD DOCUMENTS INDICATING THAT THEY PLANNED TO PLACE UNDER SURVEILLANCE 10 TARGETS OF THE MINISTRY OF [REDACTED]

PAGE 4

~~SECRET~~

WNINTEL

ECONOMY AND DECIDE WHICH THREE WOULD BE THE EASIEST TO ATTACK.

~~REPORTS OF MONTONERO ACTIVITY ARE PLAUSIBLE,
SPECIFICALLY BECAUSE OF THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE POSSIBLE~~

~~TARGETS AS GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN THE ECONOMIC AREA OR
PROMINENT BUSINESSMEN. BETWEEN 27 SEPTEMBER AND 13 NOVEMBER
1979, THE MONTONEROS MADE THREE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTS, ONE
SUCCESSFULLY, AGAINST TWO OFFICIALS OF THE MINISTRY OF
ECONOMY AND A PERSONAL ADVISOR TO THE MINISTER OF ECONOMY.
ALTHOUGH THE MONTONEROS HAVE NOT ENGAGED IN KNOWN ACTS OF
VIOLENCE SINCE THAT DATE, THEY MIGHT MAKE A SPECTACULAR
ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR CONTINUING VIOLENT
OPPOSITION TO THE GOVERNMENT AND THEIR SPECIAL OPPOSITION TO
ITS ECONOMIC POLICIES AND POLICY-MAKERS.)~~

EO25x1

~~REPORT CLASS-S E C R E T - W A R N I N G N O T I C E - I N T E L L I G E N C E S O U R C E S~~

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REPORT CLASS SECRET T-WNINTEL

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

CITE

DIST US MAR 80

POLITICAL MATTERS

COUNTRY: ARGENTINA

SUBJECT: INTENTION OF FORMER MAJOR GENERAL LUCIANO B. MENENDEZ TO
ENGAGE IN POLITICAL ACTIVITY

EO25x1

1. [REDACTED] COMMENT: IN LATE SEPTEMBER 1979, MAJOR GENERAL
LUCIANO B. MENENDEZ, THEN COMMANDER OF THE III CORPS,
 LAUNCHED AN ABORTIVE COUP ATTEMPT. *ARG* [REDACTED]

AS A

RESULT OF THAT ATTEMPT, MENENDEZ WAS REMOVED FROM THE ARMY
 AND SENTENCED TO ALMOST FIVE MONTHS' DETENTION; THE PRESS
 ANNOUNCED IN LATE FEBRUARY THAT HE HAD BEEN RELEASED.) *DE-70/109-12-201-3498*

2. [REDACTED] WHILE HE WAS STILL IN DETENTION,
 MENENDEZ CONFIDED [REDACTED]

18 MAR 26 1980

THAT HE HAD PLANNED THE COUP BECAUSE HE WAS TIRED OF HAVING
 TO COMPLAIN TO THE JUNTA ABOUT ITS LACK OF FIRMNESS IN DEALING

SECRET

64 APR 14 1980

109-12-201

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MAR 27 1980

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WITH CORRUPTION AND SUBVERSION. HE ADDED THAT BEFORE THE COUP
HE HAD RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT HE HAD CONSIDERABLE SUPPORT
AMONG THE OFFICER CORPS, BUT HE SUBSEQUENTLY DISCOVERED THAT
THIS SUPPORT WAS AMONG JUNIOR AND NOT SENIOR OFFICERS AND FOR
THIS REASON HIS COUP FAILED. MENENDEZ SAID THAT, AFTER HIS
RELEASE, HE INTENDED TO RETURN TO CORDOBA TO BUILD UP A
POLITICAL MOVEMENT IN SUPPORT OF HIS VIEWS; ONE OF HIS FIRST
TASKS WOULD BE OBTAINING FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THIS ENDEAVOR.

3. [REDACTED] AFTER HIS RELEASE, MENENDEZ WENT TO BUENOS
AIRES WHERE HE PLANNED TO MEET WITH SUPPORTERS TO DISCUSS HIS
POLITICAL PLANS AND THE FORMATION OF A POLITICAL MOVEMENT.
MENENDEZ EXPRESSED THE DESIRE TO INCLUDE RETIRED BRIGADIER
GENERAL RAMON CAMPES IN THE MEETINGS.

EO25x1

4. [REDACTED] COMMENT: GIVEN THE NAVY'S PROBABLE OPPOSITION
TO THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY OF RETIRED LT. GENERAL ROBERTO
VIOLA, FORMER COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE ARMY, IT IS

ARG.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

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POSSIBLE THAT MENENDEZ MIGHT RECEIVE SOME TYPE OF SUPPORT FROM
NAVY CIRCLES. MENENDEZ'S CRITICISM OF VIOLA WOULD ALSO CONTINUE
AND EXACERBATE THE TRADITIONAL RIVALRY BETWEEN THE ARMY'S
INFANTRY BRANCH, REPRESENTED BY VIOLA, AND THE CAVALRY BRANCH,
REPRESENTED BY MENENDEZ; THE ARMY IS CURRENTLY UNDER CONTROL OF
THE INFANTRY.) COMMENTS:

EO25x1

IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT THE NAVY MIGHT
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF MENENDEZ AS A MEANS OF ATTACKING VIOLA.)

REPORT CLASS ~~SECRET~~-WARNING NOTICE-INTELLIGENCE SOURCES
AND METHODS INVOLVED

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REPORT CLASS: ~~SECRET~~ INTELLIGENCE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

POLITICAL MATTERS

CITE [REDACTED]
DIST 25 FEB 80

COUNTRY: ARGENTINA

SUBJECT: PROBABILITY OF A CAMPAIGN OPPOSING THE
PRESIDENCY OF RETIRED LT. GENERAL ROBERTO*VIOLA [REDACTED]

EO25x1

1. ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT
BEGINNING IN MARCH 1980 A PSYCHOLOGICAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST
THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY OF RETIRED LT. GENERAL AND
FORMER ARMY COMMANDER IN CHIEF, ROBERTO V I O L A, WILL
BE LAUNCHED. [REDACTED]

THE NAVY AND THE MINISTRY
DE-47 [REDACTED] 109-12-201-3497
OF THE ECONOMY WILL BE PARTICULARLY ACTIVE IN THE
CAMPAIGN AIMED AT DEFEATING VIOLA'S CANDIDACY BECAUSE
THEY FEAR THAT VIOLA MAY UPSET THE STATUS QUO AND LESSEN
THEIR CURRENT INFLUENCE BY CREATING NEW MINISTRIES FROM
THE SECRETARIATS WITHIN THE MINISTRY OF THE ECONOMY AND THE

NOT RECORDED

23 MAR 10 1980

68 MAR 28 1980

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WARNING NOTICE
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MINISTRY OF SOCIAL WELFARE, WHICH IS CONTROLLED BY THE NAVY.
THE WHOLE CAMPAIGN IS DESIGNED TO MAINTAIN THE PRESENT
POWER STRUCTURE EITHER THROUGH A THREAT TO VIOLA,
RESULTING IN A DEAL, OR HIS REPLACEMENT BY A CANDIDATE
WHO WOULD BE UNLIKELY TO MAKE MAJOR CHANGES IN GOVERNMENT
ORGANIZATION. EFFORTS WILL BE AIMED AT CREATING DOUBTS
ABOUT VIOLA'S CAPACITY TO BE PRESIDENT AND VARIOUS
ALTERNATIVE CANDIDATES WILL BE LAUNCHED TO DETERMINE THE
REACTION WITHIN THE ARMY AND POSSIBLY AT THE JUNTA LEVEL.

2. [REDACTED]

THIS CAMPAIGN,

WHICH WILL BE CARRIED OUT THROUGH RUMORS IN MILITARY AND
POLITICAL CIRCLES, PRIVATE INFORMATION LETTERS SUCH AS
"FUENTE RESERVADA," ALLEGEDLY MANIPULATED BY THE NAVY, AND
"ULTIMA CLAVE" AND EVENTUALLY THE PRESS, WILL REACH A PEAK
DURING THE JUNE TO AUGUST 1980 PERIOD. [REDACTED]

EO25x1

RUMORS OF THE FOLLOWING TYPE WILL BE CIRCULATED: SPECULATION
ON WHO WILL REPLACE PRESIDENT JORGE RAFAEL VIDELEA,
MENTIONING SUCH CANDIDATES AS FORMER PRESIDENTS JUAN CARLOS
ONGANIA AND ALEJANDRO LANUSSE, ACTIVE DUTY
GENERAL SUCH AS MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR, MAJOR GENERAL
ALBANO HARGUINDEGUY AND EVENTUALLY PERHAPS
A NAVY ADMIRAL OR AN AIR FORCE GENERAL. THERE WILL BE
RUMORS ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF A COUP MOUNTED BY ARMY

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OFFICERS OPPOSED TO VIOLA'S CANDIDACY OR BY RIGHTISTS WHO
WANT TO CORRECT THE ERROR OF CLOSER RELATIONS BETWEEN
ARGENTINA AND THE SOVIET UNION OR BY OPPONENTS OF MINISTER
OF THE ECONOMY JOSE MARTINEZ DE HOZ. DIRTIER
RUMORS WILL BE CIRCULATED THAT VIOLA SUFFERS FROM A SERIOUS
HEART CONDITION AND ATTACKS WILL BE MADE ON THE PLAYBOY
REPUTATION OF HIS SON, ROBERTO. NAVY AND AIR FORCE
OPPOSITION TO A VIOLA PRESIDENCY WILL BE MADE KNOWN.

3. [REDACTED] THE CAMPAIGN

AGAINST VIOLA WILL ALTER NEITHER THE DATE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL
ELECTION NOR THE DATE OF VIDELA'S SUCCESSOR'S ASSUMPTION
OF POWER IN MARCH 1981. ALTHOUGH [REDACTED] ALERT TO THE
LAUNCHING OF ANTI-VIOLA RUMORS, [REDACTED] HE
WILL BE ELECTED AS VIDELA'S REPLACEMENT.

EO25x1

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CITE

DIST 25 FEB 80

COUNTRY: ARGENTINA

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SUBJECT: PROBABILITY OF A CAMPAIGN OPPOSING THE
PRESIDENCY OF RETIRED LT. GENERAL ROBERTO

VIOLA

1. ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT
BEGINNING IN MARCH 1980 A PSYCHOLOGICAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST
THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY OF RETIRED LT. GENERAL AND
FORMER ARMY COMMANDER IN CHIEF, ROBERTO VIOLA, WILL
BE LAUNCHED.

EO25x1

THE NAVY AND THE MINISTRY

OF THE ECONOMY WILL BE PARTICULARLY ACTIVE IN THE
CAMPAIGN AIMED AT DEFEATING VIOLA'S CANDIDACY BECAUSE
THEY FEAR THAT VIOLA MAY UPSET THE STATUS QUO AND LESSEN
THEIR CURRENT INFLUENCE BY CREATING NEW MINISTRIES FROM
THE SECRETARIATS WITHIN THE MINISTRY OF THE ECONOMY AND THE
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL WELFARE, WHICH IS CONTROLLED BY THE NAVY.
THE WHOLE CAMPAIGN IS DESIGNED TO MAINTAIN THE PRESENT

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~~SECRET~~

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Classified by [redacted] Declassify Officer: [redacted] Classification: [redacted] Declassify Date: [redacted]

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REPORT CLASS SECRET ~~WNINTEL~~ [redacted]

POLITICAL MATTERS

CITE [redacted]

DIST 22 FEB 80

COUNTRY: ARGENTINA

SUBJECT: [redacted] ON OBSTACLES TO

GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE TO ESTABLISH A DIALOGUE WITH POLITICAL
FIGURES (DOI: 19 FEBRUARY 1980)

EO25x1

THERE ARE ~~101 10-001~~ 196VIEWS WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT REGARDING THE DIALOGUE WITH
POLITICAL FIGURES WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN IN MARCH
1980. [redacted]

PRESIDENT JORGE RAFAEL

23 MAR 10 1980

V I D E L A AND SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE PRESIDENCY,
BRIGADIER GENERAL EDUARDO ALBERTO C R E S P I, ARE IN
FAVOR OF EXTENDING THE DIALOGUE TO ALL POLITICAL GROUPS

60 MAR 24 1980

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WHICH ARE NOT CONSIDERED SUBVERSIVE. ON THE OTHER HAND,
MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR, MAJOR GENERAL ALBANO
HARGUINDEGUY, MAINTAINS A POSITION WHICH WOULD
EXCLUDE MANY PERONIST POLITICIANS IN FAVOR OF MORE
CONSERVATIVE PARTIES SUCH AS THE RADICAL PARTY. [REDACTED]

EO25x1

2. [REDACTED] ALTHOUGH NOTHING HAS YET
BEEN DEFINED IN THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION WITH RESPECT TO
THE DIALOGUE, IT IS THE FIRST INITIATIVE BY THIS GOVERNMENT
TOWARD ACHIEVING CIVILIAN PARTICIPATION IN THE GOVERNING
PROCESS. NEVERTHELESS, [REDACTED] THE PROCESS
WILL BE DIFFICULT BECAUSE OF THE GENERAL RELUCTANCE ON THE
PART OF THE MILITARY TO RETURN TO CIVILIAN RULE.

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

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POLITICAL MATTERS

CITE

DIST 25 FEB 80

COUNTRY: ARGENTINASUBJECT: PROBABILITY OF A CAMPAIGN OPPOSING THE
PRESIDENCY OF RETIRED LT. GENERAL ROBERTO

VIOLA

1. ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT
BEGINNING IN MARCH 1980 A PSYCHOLOGICAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST
THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY OF RETIRED LT. GENERAL AND
FORMER ARMY COMMANDER IN CHIEF, ROBERTO V. I. O. L. A., WILL
BE LAUNCHED.

THE NAVY AND THE MINISTRY
OF THE ECONOMY WILL BE PARTICULARLY ACTIVE IN THE
CAMPAIGN AIMED AT DEFEATING VIOLA'S CANDIDACY BECAUSE
THEY FEAR THAT VIOLA MAY UPSET THE STATUS QUO AND LESSEN
THEIR CURRENT INFLUENCE BY CREATING NEW MINISTRIES FROM
THE SECRETARIATS WITHIN THE MINISTRY OF THE ECONOMY AND THE
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL WELFARE, WHICH IS CONTROLLED BY THE NAVY.
THE WHOLE CAMPAIGN IS DESIGNED TO MAINTAIN THE PRESENT

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1 MAR 25 1980

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POWER STRUCTURE EITHER THROUGH A THREAT TO VIOLA,
RESULTING IN A DEAL, OR HIS REPLACEMENT BY A CANDIDATE
WHO WOULD BE UNLIKELY TO MAKE MAJOR CHANGES IN GOVERNMENT
ORGANIZATION. EFFORTS WILL BE AIMED AT CREATING DOUBTS
ABOUT VIOLA'S CAPACITY TO BE PRESIDENT AND VARIOUS
ALTERNATIVE CANDIDATES WILL BE LAUNCHED TO DETERMINE THE
REACTION WITHIN THE ARMY AND POSSIBLY AT THE JUNTA LEVEL.

2. [REDACTED]

THIS CAMPAIGN,

WHICH WILL BE CARRIED OUT THROUGH RUMORS IN MILITARY AND
POLITICAL CIRCLES, PRIVATE INFORMATION LETTERS SUCH AS
"FUENTE RESERVADA," ALLEGEDLY MANIPULATED BY THE NAVY, AND
"ULTIMA CLAVE" AND EVENTUALLY THE PRESS, WILL REACH A PEAK
DURING THE JUNE TO AUGUST 1980 PERIOD. [REDACTED]

EO25x1

ARG.

RUMORS OF THE FOLLOWING TYPE WILL BE CIRCULATED: SPECULATION
ON WHO WILL REPLACE PRESIDENT JORGE RFAEL VIDE LA,
MENTIONING SUCH CANDIDATES AS FORMER PRESIDENTS JUAN CARLOS
~~ONGANIA~~ AND ~~ALEJANDRO~~ ~~ANUSSE~~, ACTIVE DUTY
GENERALS SUCH AS MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR, MAJOR GENERAL
~~ALBANO~~ ~~CHARGUIN DE GUY~~ AND EVENTUALLY PERHAPS
A NAVY ADMIRAL OR AN AIR FORCE GENERAL. THERE WILL BE
RUMORS ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF A COUP MOUNTED BY ARMY
OFFICERS OPPOSED TO VIOLA'S CANDIDACY OR BY RIGHTISTS WHO
WANT TO CORRECT THE ERROR OF CLOSER RELATIONS BETWEEN

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ARGENTINA AND THE SOVIET UNION OR BY OPPONENTS OF MINISTER

OF THE ECONOMY JOSE ~~MARTINEZ~~ DE ~~SHOZ~~ DIRTIER ARG.

RUMORS WILL BE CIRCULATED THAT VIOLA SUFFERS FROM A SERIOUS

HEART CONDITION AND ATTACKS WILL BE MADE ON THE PLAYBOY

REPUTATION OF HIS SON, ROBERTO. NAVY AND AIR FORCE

OPPOSITION TO A VIOLA PRESIDENCY WILL BE MADE KNOWN.

3.

THE CAMPAIGN

AGAINST VIOLA WILL ALTER NEITHER THE DATE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL

ELECTION NOR THE DATE OF VIDELA'S SUCCESSOR'S ASSUMPTION

OF POWER IN MARCH 1981. ALTHOUGH ALERT TO THE

LAUNCHING OF ANTI-VIOLA RUMORS, HE

WILL BE ELECTED AS VIDELA'S REPLACEMENT.

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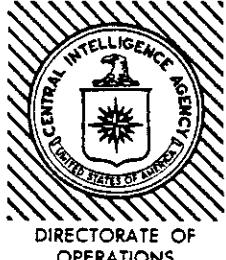
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Control: ~~(1), (2), Impossible to determine date of information~~THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCEREPORT CLASS ~~SECRET~~ - ~~UNINTEL~~ - ~~FEDERAL GOVERNMENT~~CITE

DIST 20 FEB 80

Q
POLITICAL MATTERSCOUNTRY: ARGENTINASUBJECT: MECHANICS OF GOVERNMENT INTENTION TO ESTABLISH
A DIALOGUE WITH POLITICAL FIGURES;

EO25x1

YMR THE MILITARY JUNTA INTENDSTO BEGIN A DIALOGUE WITH POLITICAL FIGURES DURING THE
FIRST HALF OF MARCH 1980 AS PART OF THE JUNTA'S POLITICALPLAN TO DETERMINE THE WAY IN WHICH ARGENTINA WILL RETURN TO
CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT. THE DIALOGUE WILL INITIALLY BE CONDUCTEDWITH INDIVIDUALS WHOSE IDEOLOGICAL POSITIONS ARE REPRESENTA-
TIVE OF NATIONAL POLITICAL GROUPS BUT WHO ARE NOT POLITICAL

LEADERS THEMSELVES. THESE INDIVIDUALS WILL BE EXPECTED TO

ACT AS GOBETWEENS FOR THE GOVERNMENT AND SPECIFIC POLITICAL

6 MAR 7 1980

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WARNING NOTICE
INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVEDFURTHER DISSEMINATION AND USE OF THIS INFORMATION SUBJECT TO
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LEADERS UNTIL THE LATTERS' ATTITUDE TOWARD THE GOVERNMENT

IS DETERMINED. [REDACTED] THE GOVERNMENT WILL

PERMIT POLITICAL ACTIVITY BY POLITICIANS WHO ARE WILLING TO
WORK WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT'S POLITICAL PLAN, BUT ONLY IF THEY
ARE REPRESENTATIVE OF AND CONTROL A SIZEABLE GROUP OF
POTENTIAL VOTERS. [REDACTED] THE MOST COMPLEXPROBLEM IS HOW TO DEAL WITH THE PERONIST MOVEMENT SINCE IT IS
MADE UP OF SO MANY FACTIONS. THE GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE TO BE
EXTREMELY ALERT AND CAUTIOUS IN DETERMINING WHICH FACTIONS
ARE TRULY REPRESENTATIVE. [REDACTED] COMMENT: ON 20 FEBRUARY 1980,
THE ARGENTINE PRESS REPORTED THAT, ON 19 FEBRUARY, THE MILITARY
JUNTA HAD MET TO DISCUSS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DOCUMENT
ON POLITICAL BASES FOR THE NATIONAL REORGANIZATION PROCESS,
INCLUDING A "POLITICAL DIALOGUE.").

EO25x1

3. [REDACTED] THE INITIAL DIALOGUE WILL
ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE AN INDIVIDUAL POLITICAL FIGURE'S
CONVICTIONS AND WHETHER HE CAN WORK WITH THE GOVERNMENT
IN ESTABLISHING A POLITICAL PROGRAM. THE GOVERNMENT IS
LOOKING FOR OBJECTIVE POLITICIANS WHO ARE NOT BIASED TO THE
POINT WHERE THEIR EFFECTIVENESS IN PRESENTING BOTH SIDES OF
THE DIALOGUE WOULD BE HINDERED. THE MARCH 1980 INTERVIEWS
WILL BE CONDUCTED BY A POLITICAL COMMISSION MADE UP OF THE
MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR, HIS ADVISORS AND A MILITARY
COMMITTEE CONSISTING OF A NAVY CAPTAIN, AN AIR FORCE COLONEL

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AND AN ARMY COLONEL. AT THE SAME TIME EACH SERVICE WILL
DESIGNATE AN ACTIVE DUTY GENERAL RANK OFFICER WHO WILL BE
THE LIAISON POINT BETWEEN THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF EACH
SERVICE AND THE POLITICAL COMMISSION. COMMENT: ON
17 FEBRUARY 1980, THE DAILY NEWSPAPER "CLARIN" REPORTED
THAT THE MILITARY POLITICAL COMMISSION WOULD BE COMPOSED
OF ARMY COLONEL M A N S I L L A (FNU), NAVY CAPTAIN
M A R I N O (FNU) AND RETIRED AIR FORCE COLONEL FRANKLIN
V A R E L A. "CLARIN" ALSO REPORTED THE FORMATION OF A
SUPERVISORY COMMISSION COMPOSED OF ARMY GENERAL RAUL
U R T I Z, REAR ADMIRAL CARLOS C A R P I N T E R O AND
AIR FORCE BRIGADIER GENERAL RODOLFO G U E R R A.)

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IS CONCERNED

REGARDING THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO BEGIN A DIALOGUE
WITH ARGENTINE POLITICAL FIGURES IN MARCH 1980. THE BASIS
FOR THIS CONCERN IS AS FOLLOWS: 1980 IS LIKELY TO BE AN
UNSETTLED YEAR WITH RESPECT TO THE ECONOMY SINCE GOVERNMENT
EFFORTS TO CURB INFLATION ARE ALREADY RESULTING IN RECESSION
AND UNEMPLOYMENT. SINCE THE LABOR UNIONS ARE NOW INTERVENED

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BY THE MILITARY, THE ONLY ESCAPE VALVE FOR PUBLIC RESENTMENT
IN THE FACE OF UNEMPLOYMENT WILL BE THE POLITICAL PARTIES.
THESE RESENTMENTS ARE LIABLE TO CAUSE FRICTION BETWEEN THE
GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL LEADERS THUS COMPLICATING THE
POLITICAL PROCESS.

6. [REDACTED] CRITICIZED THE JUNTA FOR PUBLICLY
ANNOUNCING ITS INTENTION TO BEGIN A POLITICAL DIALOGUE WHEN
IT HAS NOT, IN FACT, DRAWN UP ANY GUIDELINES FOR ITS OWN
POSITION. THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT YET HAVE ANY FIRM POSITION
ON HOW IT INTENDS TO RETURN TO POLITICAL LIFE NOR A TIMETABLE
FOR SUCH A RETURN. THIS IS PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT WHEN IT
HAS NO INTENTION OF RETURNING TO CIVILIAN RULE WITHOUT
SOME GUARANTEE OF A MILITARY VETO OVER THE POLITICAL
SITUATION. AS A RESULT, THE GOVERNMENT BASICALLY HAS NOTHING
TO OFFER POLITICIANS IN RETURN FOR THEIR COOPERATION.

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[REDACTED] IS HOPEFUL THAT PRESIDENT JORGE RAFAEL
VIDELA'S SPEECH ON 24 MARCH 1980, THE FOURTH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE MILITARY'S ASSUMPTION OF POWER, WILL
CLARIFY THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION, SINCE AT PRESENT IT
HAS NONE. [REDACTED] ATTEMPTING TO OPEN [REDACTED]
DIALOGUE WITH POLITICAL LEADERS THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF THE
INTERIOR'S "PLAN DE COMUNICACION SOCIAL". [REDACTED]

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